

SUMMARY OF OPA ORDERS ISSUED DURING WEEK ENDING JUNE 19 AFFECTING AGRICULTURE

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By the OPA

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Rationing developments on the sugar and gasoline fronts were the chief points of OPA action during the week.

SUGAR

Consumers who registered for sugar rationing but were not issued war ration books because they had excess sugar on hand, will be permitted to obtain books upon application to local war price and rationing boards if excess supplies now have been depleted by allowances made for home canning (OPA Release PM 3677).

Stamps No. 5 and 6 in the war ration books will be valid for sugar purchases for a 4-week period instead of 2, as were the first four stamps. However, individual half-pound per week consumer rations of sugar remain unchanged (OPA-23).

To insure consumers against inconvenience in obtaining sugar to which they are entitled under the sugar rationing regulations, OPA provided for increased retailer inventories. Inventories held may be an amount equal to 1 pound for each dollar of gross weekly sales recorded in the retailer's application at registration time (OPA-28).

GASOLINE

Gasoline coupon book holders in the East Coast rationing plan, effective July 15, may be identified by serial numbers on the Federal automobile used tax stamps, which motor vehicles are required to display (PM 3662).

Motorists who have used all their "A" and "B" ration card units cannot get any more gasoline until July 15 without showing need before local rationing board (PM 3671).

Under new permanent East Coast rationing plans, all gasoline for occupational, nonhighway purposes, including commercial boats, will be rationed through "E" and "R" coupon books, tailored to meet needs. These books, containing enough coupons for 6 months' supply, are available at local rationing boards (PM 3674).

East Coast motorists will register July 1, 2, and 3 at public schools for basic gasoline ration books (PM 3676).

Price Administrator Leon Henderson suspended 14 service station operators in metropolitan New York and Philadelphia, who admitted flagrant violation of OPA's gasoline rationing regulations, from some 15 to 30 deliveries of gasoline (OPA-10).

## TIRES

Sale of 5-ply tires, heretofore restricted to special uses under rationing regulations, now may be made to any holder of a certificate for a 4-ply casing (PM 3673).

Price Administrator Henderson announced clarification of the procedure by which owners of tires or tubes in public warehouses may withdraw them for their own use by presentation of a rationing certificate (OPA-21).

## BICYCLES

Total U. S. stocks of adults' new bicycles, soon to be rationed, amounted to 150,668 on May 8, or substantially larger than preliminary reports had indicated (OPA-9).

## FUEL

Maximum prices are established for new sizes and qualities of fuels not covered by Maximum Price Regulation No. 121 and for fuels, although not new, which may not have been sold in the price-basing period December 15 to 31, 1941 (PM 3672).

## FATS AND OILS

Certain fats and oils, otherwise exempt from ceiling prices under Revised Price Schedule No. 53, are covered by the schedule, if a method for computing the top price for such commodities (enumerated in dollars and cents) is set forth in section 1351.151 (b)(6), (8), (9), or any subsequent subparagraph hereafter added to paragraph (b) of that section (PM 3669).

## SOAP

Three large manufacturers producing the majority of the Nation's soap, acting voluntarily to release a price squeeze on retailers, wholesalers, and jobbers, rescinded advances averaging  $3\frac{1}{2}$  percent made in February and March 1942 (PM 3652).

## SPONGE SWEAT BANDS

OPA announced maximum prices for a new type of sponge sweat band that the American Allsafe Co., Buffalo, N. Y., has begun manufacturing to take the place of one previously made of materials no longer available for the purpose (PM 3641). In April this company changed over to the new band because of inability to procure glycerine and the necessity of finding a substitute for gun rubber.

## SCRAP

Price Administrator Henderson, in conjunction with the scrap rubber collection drive, called attention to a section of the tire rationing regulations which requires anyone who secures tires or tubes under rationing to dispose of any in excess of the number permitted under the regulations (OPA-2).



Tires disposed of at time of replacement purchases should be sold for scrap if they are so old and have been so badly damaged that they are no longer usable as tires. However, serviceable tires or tubes, or any that can be made serviceable by repairs, should not be junked.

Dealers selling waste, scrap, or salvage material to industrial consumers were reminded that they must register with OPA by June 20 (OPA-1).

Buyers and sellers of aluminum scrap on an "as is" basis risk making themselves liable to heavy penalties provided for violation of the aluminum scrap schedule (OPA-5). The schedule specifically provides maximum prices may be charged and paid only for scrap which meets accepted trade standards.

Changes in specifications for certain grades of iron and steel scrap along with addition of several new grades to those already in the iron and steel scrap schedule, were announced by Price Administrator Henderson.

#### GENERAL MAXIMUM PRICE REGULATION

Wool skins (sheep and lamb pelts with the wool left on) are exempt from General Maximum Price Regulation provisions because of special pricing problems (PM 3638).

Wood and gum for naval stores and gum naval stores are excepted from the General Maximum Price Regulation (PM 3668). However, wood naval stores, including pine oil, remain under provisions of the General Maximum Price Regulation at all levels of distribution--from manufacturers' distillation to retail. Gum naval stores are deemed agricultural commodities. Wood naval stores are industrial commodities.

Sales of warehouse receipts are covered by the General Maximum Price Regulation and are not exempt under the section of the regulation which exempts securities (T-449).

The General Maximum Price Regulation does not apply to sales or deliveries of all milk products including butter, cheese, condensed and evaporated milk, except that fluid milk at retail, cream sold at retail, and ice cream shall be governed by the regulation. Additional milk products not covered by the "universal ceiling" according to a new interpretation, are sweetened condensed milk, sweetened condensed skim milk, condensed and evaporated buttermilk, dry or powdered milk, dry or powdered skim milk, dry or powdered buttermilk, dry or powdered whey, casein, malted milk powder, plastic cream for manufacturing (PM 3659).

Prices which the War and Navy Departments receive for used, damaged, and waste materials disposed of at public sale do not fall under the General Maximum Price Regulation provisions (OPA-T-1).

Effective date of the General Maximum Price Regulation as it applies to transportation, storage, and related services has been postponed to July 1 (OPA-41).



Interpretation of the meaning of "eggs and poultry" under the General Maximum Price Regulation covers a number of complete foods that are not subject to the regulation. Exemption of eggs and poultry from price control does not relate solely to unprocessed eggs and poultry but also applies to processed eggs and slaughtered poultry (OPA-20).

Deliveries of lumber produced in Alaska are excepted from provisions of the General Maximum Price Regulation for a 60-day period (PM 3654).

Scrap burlap, scrap bagging, and cotton-mill waste materials used variously for bagging, lining, and padding--again are placed under General Maximum Price Regulation provisions to preserve ordinary channels of distribution (T-464).

#### MEN'S FALL CLOTHING

OPA officials met with a small industry group to talk over broad phases of the price problems involved prior to formulation of a regulation providing for seasonal pricing of men's fall clothing (OPA-3).

#### COTTON PRODUCTS

Many fabrics covered by Maximum Price Regulation No. 118 (Cotton Products) are exempt from provisions of Maximum Price Regulation No. 127 (Finished Piece Goods). (PM 3648).

#### LUMBER

Maximum prices were set for major species of West Coast logs (PM 3667).

Dollars-and-cents maximum prices are established for red cedar shingles, which constitute 95 percent of all wood shingles produced in this country (OPA-17). The regulation, effective June 29, applies to mill originated shipments. Except for lower grades, which are reduced slightly, ceiling prices are approximately the same as those prevailing under the General Maximum Price Regulation, namely the highest March 1942 prices. The new regulation basically represents a conversion of those prices to a dollars-and-cents basis.

Extension of dollars-and-cents maximum price schedules to additional lumber items produced from Douglas fir, West Coast hemlock, and all species of true fir, previously subject to the General Maximum Price Regulation, were announced (OPA-15).

#### SPEECH

David Ginsburg, OPA General Counsel, at a speech made before the National Retail Dry Goods Association in Chicago, suggested the possibility of WFP withholding allocations of goods for civilian consumption until producers agree to continue to produce in the same price line and proportionately the same proportions in these price lines as they did during a given base period. This would effectively hold activities of certain manufacturers who have eliminated their low-priced lines almost entirely and have concentrated output in higher-priced lines, as well as manufacturers who have begun to produce so-called "new models" designed to hold at higher prices.